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M E M O R A N D U M

April 16, 1964

TO: Mr. W. David Slawson

FROM: Burt W. Griffin

RE: Interview with Agent Frank Ellsworth, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Unit, Dallas, Texas, (6:15 PM to 7 PM, Monday, April 13, 1964).

Special Agent William Patterson and I spoke with Agent Ellsworth in his home in Dallas, Texas. Ellsworth has finished law school for investigating gun sales for the Treasury Department in Dallas - Fort Worth during the last four and a half years. He stated that he was more familiar with traffic in arms in that area than any other Agent of the Government outside of persons in the FBI. Most of this interview was totally uninformative; however, I believe that we learned three things of value:

1. At the time of the assassination of the President, there was almost no information available to the Government concerning the activities of Dallas Cubans and other groups in illegal armaments.

2. An organization known as the Minute Men is the Right-Wing group in Dallas most likely to have been associated with any effort to assassinate the President.

3. The Minute Men are closely tied to General Walker and H. L. Hunt.

Mr. Ellsworth described in some detail his undercover efforts in procuring the arrest of a local gun shop owner who is an ardent member of the Minute Men. As a result of these undercover activities Agent Ellsworth learned that Manuel O. Rodriguez, apparently a Cuban survivor of the Bay of Pigs episode, was attempting to purchase arms in Dallas for Alpha 66. Rodriguez is also a member of the DRE.

Agent Ellsworth indicated that virtually all information gathered by the FBI with respect to Right-Wing, anti-Castro Cuban, and other so-called subversive activities was the responsibility of Agent Hosty. I got the impression from Ellsworth that Hosty is personally responsible for most investigative information developed in Dallas in connection with subversive activities. Ellsworth, like Agents Howlett and Patterson of the Secret Service, expressed his dislike for Agent Hosty. Each of these persons brought up Hosty's name and commented on his own without prompting from me.

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